

Appln. Serial No. 09/773,054  
Amendment Dated January 15, 2009  
Reply to Office Action Mailed October 15, 2008

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1           1 – 4. (Cancelled)

1           5.       (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,  
3 comprising:  
4           identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing  
5 the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;  
6           providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service  
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service  
8 module removably installable on the printer;  
9           removing the first service module from the printer;  
10          installing the second service module in the printer in place of the first service module;  
11          using the second service module, conducting a special printhead-related servicing  
12 operation.

1           6.       (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:  
2           after completion of the special printhead-related servicing operation, removing the  
3 second service module from the printer; and  
4           installing the first service module in the printer in place of the second service module.

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1           7.     (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,  
3 comprising:  
4           identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing  
5 the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;  
6           providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service  
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service  
8 module removably installable on the printer and in place of the first service module;  
9           providing a set of instructions for using the second service module with the inkjet printer  
10 to the printer user, wherein the step of providing a set of instructions includes providing a set of  
11 machine readable printer instruction code for loading into the printer.

1           8.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the printer is controlled  
2 by a host computer, and wherein the step of providing the set of instructions includes  
3 downloading the set of printer instruction code from the host computer.

1           9 – 13. (Cancelled)

1           14.    (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,  
3 comprising:  
4           identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing  
5 the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;  
6           providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service  
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service  
8 module removably installable on the printer and in place of the first service module, wherein said  
9 printhead-related service condition includes ink on a printhead carriage interconnect, and the  
10 second service module includes a brush arranged to clean the interconnect.

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1           15.   (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet  
2 printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,  
3 comprising:

4           identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing  
5 the printer with the first service module being in an un-worn condition;

6           providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service  
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, the second service  
8 module removably installable on the printer and in place of the first service module, wherein said  
9 printhead-related service condition includes vibration or shock incurred during shipment or  
10 moving of the printer, and the second service module includes a special capping structure having  
11 a range of movement along an axis generally perpendicular ~~transverse~~ to a nozzle array of the  
12 printhead, and a bias structure which urges the capping structure toward and into engagement  
13 with the printhead during a capping procedure.

1           16.   (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the special capping structure includes  
2 a relative hard, non-resilient cap structure which contains the printhead during the capping  
3 procedure.

1           17 - 18. (Cancelled)

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1           19.   (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:  
3           providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to  
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service  
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the  
6 printer and in place of the first service module;  
7           providing a set of instructions for using the second service module with the inkjet printer  
8 to the printer user, wherein the step of providing a set of instructions includes providing a set of  
9 machine readable printer instruction code for loading into the printer;  
10          installing the second service module in the printer;  
11          conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module.

1           20.   (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:  
3           providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to  
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service  
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the  
6 printer and in place of the first service module;  
7           providing a set of instructions for using the second service module with the inkjet printer  
8 to the printer user, wherein the printer is controlled by a host computer, and the step of providing  
9 a set of instructions includes downloading the set of printer instruction code from the host  
10 computer;  
11          installing the second service module in the printer;  
12          conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module.

1           21.   (Canceled)

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1           22.   (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:  
3           providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to  
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service  
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the  
6 printer and in place of the first service module;  
7           installing the second service module in the printer;  
8           conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module;  
9           after completion of the printhead-related servicing operation, removing the second  
10 service module from the printer; and  
11           installing the first service module in the printer in place of the second service module.

1           23 – 26. (Cancelled)

1           27.   (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead and a removable first service module, comprising:  
3           providing a second service module different from the first service module and adapted to  
4 address a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by the first service  
5 module being in an un-worn condition, the second service module removably installable on the  
6 printer and in place of the first service module;  
7           installing the second service module in the printer;  
8           conducting a printhead-related service operation using the second service module;  
9           wherein said printhead-related service condition includes ink on a printhead carriage  
10 interconnect, and the second service module includes a cleaning element arranged to clean the  
11 interconnect during a special cleaning mode with the printhead removed from the carriage.

1           28 – 29. (Cancelled)

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1           30.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for use in an inkjet printing system including  
2 an inkjet printhead and a standard service module removably installed in the printing system, the  
3 apparatus comprising a special service module configured to be removably installed in the  
4 printing system in place of the standard service module to perform a special service function on  
5 the printhead which is not performed by the standard service module being in an un-worn  
6 condition, the special service module removably installable [[on]] in the printing system printer  
7 and in place of the standard service module, wherein the special service module includes a  
8 housing and at least one component mounted to the housing to perform the special service  
9 function.

1           31.   (Previously Presented) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an  
2 inkjet printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,  
3 comprising:  
4           identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing  
5 the printer with the first service module;  
6           providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service  
7 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition;  
8           removing the first service module from the printer;  
9           installing the second service module in the printer in place of the first service module;  
10          using the second service module, conducting a special printhead-related servicing  
11 operation;  
12          after completion of the special printhead-related servicing operation, removing the  
13 second service module from the printer; and  
14          installing the first service module in the printer in place of the second service module.

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1           32. (Currently Amended) A method for servicing an inkjet printer including an inkjet  
2 printhead with a nozzle plate and a first service module removably installed on the printer,  
3 comprising:

4           identifying a printhead-related service condition not adequately addressed by servicing  
5 the printer with the first service module in an un-worn condition, said printhead-related service  
6 condition including vibration or shock incurred during shipment or moving of the printer;

7           providing a second service module with a service function different from the first service  
8 module and adapted to address said printhead-related service condition, wherein the second  
9 service module includes a special capping structure having a range of movement along an axis  
10 generally perpendicular ~~transverse~~ to a nozzle array of the printhead, and a bias structure which  
11 urges the capping structure toward and into engagement with the printhead during a capping  
12 procedure, and wherein the special capping structure including a relative hard, non-resilient cap  
13 structure which contacts the printhead during the capping procedure; and

14           performing the capping procedure with the second service module installed in the printer,  
15 and maintaining contact between the non-resilient cap structure and the printhead to prevent a  
16 pumping action on the printhead when subjected to vibration and shock.

1           33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein a constant closed  
2 volume is maintained between the cap structure and the printhead during the capping procedure.

1           34 – 44. (Cancelled)

1           45. (Previously Presented) An inkjet printing system, comprising:

2           an inkjet printhead;

3           a service area for performing service functions on the printhead;

4           a first service module for removable mounting at the service area to perform service  
5 functions on the printhead during a standard printhead service mode;

6           a second service module for removable mounting at the service area in place of the first  
7 service module to perform a different service function from that performed by the first service  
8 module in an un-worn condition on the printhead during a special printhead service mode.

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- 1           46.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 45 further comprising:  
2           a printhead carriage for mounting the printhead and arranged for traversing movement  
3   along a print area and for moving to the service area;  
4           a service carriage for removably mounting the first service module or the second service  
5   module.